



## Demiti Artemieu wins first place in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual World Cup of Poker

The Casino at the Radisson is the home of hot poker action with their many daily Texas Hold'em tournaments, and the biggest local tournament of the year was held on Thursday evening, December 28 in the card room. The No Limit World Cup of Poker paid out \$15,000 to the first place winner last year to defending champion Josh Waldman, and this year Demitri Artemieu of New York took home \$10,000 and the champion bracelet. Josh made it to the final table, but he could not hold out long against Demitri, who came to the final with the longest stack, and kept that lead until the very end.

The two final tables saw some hot poker action, with Merrill van Trigt of Aruba plowing through the competition at the second table to bring his long stack to the final table. He knocked out his last challenger who went all in with a pair of queens, which would be considered a sure bet until his opponent found out that Merrill had a pair of aces as hole cards. The flop, turn and river showed no aces or queens, so that brought the number of competitors to ten and the final table.

Demitri and Merrill whittled down the competition to the final three, which included Michel Ramp of Aruba. It looked like Merrill would again repeat victory as he went all in again with a pair of aces against Michel, who held a pair of nines. Luck was not with this time though, and the turn card revealed a nine, giving Michel three nines and the second place win. From there on in it was only a matter of time until Dimitri busted out Michel and took the title. The last hand was a case of Déjà vu, as pairs of aces and nines were dealt to Dimitri and Michel as hole cards, but this time there was no third nine to give Michel the win.

Dimitri may have gotten the winner's bracelet, but Michel and Merrill were very happy with their \$6,000 second and third place purses. It was fast paced Texas Hold 'em action at its best, attracting quite an audience, and filling the tables of the Poker Room of the Casino at the Radisson. Congratulations to the World Cup of Poker champions for 2006!